

that collection in his department store. He later donated most of these collections to what was then called—and now is world famous—the Rockwell Museum. This museum got its first home in 1976 in an old hotel in downtown Corning.

During that time, he became president of both Corning Chamber of Commerce and Corning Rotary Club and forever left his mark on both organizations. In 1983, the Rockwell Museum of Western Art opened in Corning's refurbished old City Hall building. It's become a popular local and national icon.

The multimillion dollar value of Bob's donated art and glass is a testament to his generosity, but is only one of such testaments. His legacy is further enhanced by his compassion and help to his fellow man.

And let me close by saying, from the heart to Bob and to his family and from all of us in Corning, New York, and in western New York State, Bob, we are always in your debt for your tremendous contributions to our community.

#### IMAGINE IF A REPUBLICAN WERE PRESIDENT

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, in a recent *Investors Business Daily* op-ed, radio host Larry Elder wondered how the media's reporting would be different if a Republican were President.

Of a potential Republican President, Elder wrote, "Imagine if his Secretary of Treasury had not paid taxes, he granted two dozen waivers to his lobbyists-in-government rule and he had promised bipartisanship but only got three across-the-aisle votes for his 'stimulus' package. Or if he tripled the projected annual deficit and intended, within a short period, to double the national debt."

Elder's point is clear. The national media's double standard has meant a free pass for President Obama and the Democrats' budget.

The American people should insist on fair news coverage without regard to political party.

#### WELCOME TO NEW COMMANDERS AT FORT POLK AND BARKSDALE

(Mr. FLEMING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, tomorrow, the 94th Brigade Support Battalion, part of the 10th Mountain Division's 4th Brigade Combat Team, will welcome Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Coston as its new commander at Fort Polk in Louisiana.

Lieutenant Colonel Coston most recently served as a joint logistics staff officer in Washington, D.C. He is a well-decorated and well-respected soldier, and I congratulate him on his new command at Fort Polk.

At the other military installation in my district, Barksdale Air Force Base, Colonel Steven Basham assumed command of the 2nd Bomb Wing earlier this week. And may I add that Barksdale was selected today for Global Strike Command.

Colonel Basham is a command pilot with more than 3,300 flying hours and served as director of operations for the first combat deployment of the B-2 bomber during Operation Iraqi Freedom. His leadership has been commended throughout his career, and I am confident he will be an exemplary leader for the airmen under his command at Barksdale.

I welcome both officers to my district and thank them for their dedication to the defense of this Nation.

□ 1930

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. HALVORSON). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CASSIDY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the *Extensions of Remarks*.)

#### DEMOCRAT SPENDING SINCE TARP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, this has been a historic day. We just passed a huge bill, cost the American taxpayers \$3.5 trillion. It increased taxes at a time when we shouldn't be increasing taxes, and I won't restate everything that's been said here today because I think my colleagues on both sides of the aisle expressed their positions very well.

But what I would like to say—and I'm not going to take the whole 5 minutes—is that in October we passed the TARP bill, October of last year, \$700 billion. In January, we passed the State Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization, \$73 billion. In February, on the 9th, we passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the stimulus bill, for \$820 billion plus the interest it will incur, which is about \$348 billion. That's \$1.16 trillion. On February 9, we consolidated the appropriations for fiscal year 2009 in the omnibus bill, \$410 billion plus \$250 billion in interest. That's \$625 billion in total. And then you add to that the budget which we passed today for \$3.5 trillion.

We are in the process of bankrupting this country. We are printing so much money and incurring so much debt that our kids and grandkids, I don't know

how they're going to be able to live with it.

I heard my colleagues on the other side of the aisle applauding when we passed this budget today. Those of us on this side of the aisle who have been around here for a while, we were doing anything but applauding. We were thinking about what we've done to this country.

You know, China has about \$700 billion of our debt. Japan has about \$600 billion of our debt. And they don't want to buy any more of our debt. The only reason they're doing it I think is because this is the only game in town, but there is a limit to how much these other countries in the world will spend purchasing our debt.

And so what's going to happen? It's already happening. We're increasing the money supply. Up until just recently, we had increased the money supply by almost 300 percent. That means that we've increased the money supply three times in just recent years. And when that money gets into circulation, along with the money we're going to be printing because of all these expenditures I just enumerated, we're going to have a tremendous amount of dollars chasing fewer and fewer goods and services. More dollars, less production, and that means we're going to have inflation.

So I'd just like to say to my colleagues tonight, you may be celebrating this great budget that you passed, but it's going to end up costing our kids and our grandkids more in taxes and inflation, and they're going to look back on this day and on what we're doing and they're going to say, why in the world did you do this to us, why did you do it to us?

And I hope I and my colleagues are alive to look back and remember what happened today and what's been happening in recent days, weeks and months. It's a tragedy, and I'm very depressed over it. I hope that something will change the way things are going. I hope people will see the light and will start cutting taxes instead of increasing taxes and spending, but I doubt that's going to happen.

#### CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2009

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today on a motion offered pursuant to this order, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 6, 2009, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in House Concurrent Resolution 93, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### WE NEED TO FIX THE TAX CODE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, perhaps the most dreaded day of the year for taxpayers will soon be upon us, April 15. We're all at home with paper and pen, with stacks of receipts and books, strewn upon our kitchen table, and as tax day approaches, I come before the House of Representatives to share Kansans' many frustrations and to call upon Congress to fix the Tax Code.

Our country desperately needs a better tax system. The United States Tax Code is complex, confusing, and terribly burdensome to taxpayers, and it impedes our Nation's economic growth. The IRS has estimated that individual taxpayers and businesses spend 7.6 billion hours each year filling out their taxes. To put that number in perspective, that's 3.8 million employees working full time for the entire year.

It's obvious, certainly to anyone filling out their tax return this year, that an overhaul of the Federal Tax Code is required. The Fair Tax Act, which I support, H.R. 25, is a direction we should go and contains many meritorious ideas which would start the process. The fair tax would repeal income, payroll, and a multitude of other taxes. And those taxes would be replaced by a national sales or consumption tax on retail purchases.

But no matter what system we agree upon, what we model our tax reform around, the fact remains: America deserves an easier, commonsense, and less convoluted tax system than we currently have in place. We need a tax system that promotes personal freedom. Decisions should be made based upon what's good for us individually, what's good for our families, and what's good for our businesses. It shouldn't be all about what's good for the tax man.

But instead of tax simplification and tax relief, Americans this year will be facing the same broken system and a budget proposal that increases their taxes to pay for more spending. Many are angry at the reckless spending of this Congress, so much so that a national grassroots movement of tea par-

ties has opened up this spring. On April 15, over 300 tax day tea parties are planned across the country, many of them in Kansas.

Kansans are tired of footing the bill for Wall Street bailouts and rewarding bad behavior in the housing market. They're frustrated with trillion dollar stimulus efforts that fund projects and programs that simply won't stimulate the economy. They're upset with massive government spending that increases our national debt at a time when most American families are forced to tighten their belts and make tough choices.

Americans are struggling, and we need to get the country moving, but increasing taxes to recklessly throw dollars at the problem is not the solution. I am one of only a few of the 435 Members of this House to vote against every stimulus and bailout plan. I'd like to say that there were more of us. Hopefully, this tax day will serve as a reminder for Congress and the administration to put the taxpayer first—spend a lot less and create a tax system that is fair and efficient and that promotes individual freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFazio) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFazio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FLAKE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. LIPINSKI addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SCHIFF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. REICHERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. REICHERT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. ROGERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. ROGERS of Michigan addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### HONORING MR. AND MRS. JAMES AILSHIE AND THE "J4"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. James Ailshie, who are celebrating their 79th year of marriage. James Ailshie was born in 1912, and his lovely wife, Dussie, in 1914. The two are proud parents of six wonderful children, all of whom are residents of East Tennessee.

When asked how they have maintained such an incredible marriage, the couple always responds with, "The secret of a long life together is a four letter word, love." In my opinion, the Ailshie marriage is a living testimony of what love truly is. Let theirs serve as an example to all of us, that love and dedication can truly last a lifetime.

However, their marriage is more than simply an affirmation of love. Across the years they have witnessed times of joy and times of hardship, yet their commitment has endured. The qualities of character that have enabled them to sustain their union and build their family are the same qualities that are fundamental to the strength of our Nation. May we continue to be blessed with Americans who cherish the values of our traditions.

Married in 1930, the Ailshies have shared many yesterdays together. It has been said that, "An anniversary is a time to celebrate the joys of today, the memories of yesterday, and the hopes of tomorrow." It is my hope that they will go on and see many, many more tomorrows together.